



FACT SHEET

376th Air Expeditionary Wing Transit Center at Manas, Kyrgyzstan

The Transit Center at Manas was activated in December 2001 when coalition forces deployed to Manas International Airport and began supporting Operation Enduring Freedom and the International Security Assistance Force after the terror attacks of September 11, 2001. The base continues to play an important role in supporting ongoing ISAF and coalition operations in Afghanistan, helping to promote regional stability in Central Asia. (In July 2009, the base was redesignated as the Transit Center at Manas following a joint U.S./Kyrgyz agreement.



A diverse contingent of coalition forces have served at the Transit Center in the host nation of Kyrgyzstan, including:

Australia	New Zealand
Denmark	Norway
France	South Korea
Italy	Spain
Netherlands	United States

Mission

The Transit Center at Manas currently serves as the premier air mobility hub for the International Security Assistance Force and coalition military forces operating in Afghanistan. The around-the-clock missions include aerial refueling, airlift and airdrop, aeromedical evacuation and support for coalition personnel and cargo transiting in and out of Afghanistan.

Aircraft

Coalition aircraft here include U.S. KC-135s, Spanish C-130s, and French C135FRs.

Mission Fast Facts (January 2008 – December 2008)

Fuel Offloaded from KC-135 Stratotankers:	194,453,400 lbs
KC-135 sorties flown:	3,294 sorties
Number of aircraft refueled over Afghanistan:	11,419 aircraft
Passengers Moved:	170,000 personnel
Cargo Moved:	5,000 short tons

Personnel and Resources

The logistics base has approximately 1,100 military personnel assigned, including U.S., Spanish and French forces. Additionally, the base employs about 750 contract workers to assist with day-to-day operations and to support the personnel assigned to and transiting through the base. Additionally, there are typically several on-going construction contracts. Approximately 600 of the base's contract employees are local nationals.

In fiscal year 2008 (October 2007 – September 2008), the presence of installation contributed more than \$64 million to the local Kyrgyz economy. In addition to the annual \$17.4 million for use of the base and its facilities, \$22.5 was spent on airport operations and land lease fees, nearly

\$500 thousand on upgrades to Kyrgyz Air Navigation operations, and approximately \$24 million on local contracts and charity work.

Other Impacts

Personnel stationed here are uniquely positioned to serve the community as well as supporting the mission in Afghanistan. In their limited personal time, many Transit Center personnel volunteer at local organizations or participate in community service projects in nearby villages.

The Manas Area Benefit Outreach Society (MABOS) is a private, nonprofit volunteer service organization that works with local charities to support the greater Bishkek area and communities near the base. Outreach efforts include work with orphanages, medical facilities for children, elderly foundations and Habitat for Humanity. Since its creation in December 2003, MABOS has invested more than 52,000 volunteer hours nearly \$200 thousand dollars in the local communities.

The Manas Service Organization (MSO) supports the base village partnership program, which pairs military organizations with local villages to perform community service. MSO works closely with local mayors to identify and prioritize needs for service members to assist with through volunteerism. Projects include renovations of schools and community centers in more than 12 villages surrounding the base.

Organization

376th Expeditionary Operations Group: The operations group executes rapid transport of cargo and passengers as well as the aerial delivery of fuel to U.S. and coalition combat aircraft performing operations in Afghanistan. The group's assigned units consist of one KC-135 tanker squadron and an operations support squadron. The support squadron's functions include airfield management and operations, air traffic control, intelligence, and weather.

Spanish "Mizar" Detachment: Provides support for Spanish forces assigned to International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) as well as Coalition forces when needed. The detachment of personnel and C-130 aircraft provide tactical intra-theater airlift and is specially equipped to support medical evacuations and casualty evacuation.

French Detachment: Provides aerial refueling for Coalition aircraft supporting Operation Enduring Freedom and ISAF with the French version of the KC-135, the C135FR.

376th Expeditionary Maintenance Group: The maintenance group provides combat-ready aircraft and munitions to the air component commander in support of coalition forces throughout Afghanistan. The group is comprised of a squadron responsible for aircraft maintenance and sortie generation of KC-135 tanker, as well as limited en-route support for C-17 Globemaster IIIs. Additionally, the group assists with launch, recovery, and servicing support for military and commercial transient aircraft.

376th Expeditionary Mission Support Group: The mission support group provides a wide range of services to U.S. and coalition personnel assigned to and transiting the Transit Center. The group is comprised of six squadrons responsible for personnel accountability, laundry services, billeting, morale and welfare, communications, base infrastructure sustainment, fire protection, security for aircraft and personnel, force protection escorts, fuels, vehicle maintenance, logistics planning, passenger and air terminal operations, and contracting support.

376th Expeditionary Medical Group: The medical group provides primary medical care, medical support and limited dental services to U.S. and coalition forces at the Transit Center. Along with the Spanish Detachment, the 376th EMDG prepares patients for movement to Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan or military facilities in Germany for treatment of conditions beyond local capabilities.

(Current as of July 2009)